

Office of the Attorney General State of Texas

DAN MORALES
ATTORNEY GENERAL

September 22, 1995

Ms. Tamara Armstrong Assistant County Attorney County of Travis P.O. Box 1748 Austin, Texas 78767

OR95-978

Dear Ms. Armstrong:

You have asked whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under the Texas Open Records Act, chapter 552 of the Government Code. Your request was assigned ID# 32123.

The Travis County Sheriff's Office received a request for information about an incident that occurred at the Travis County Del Valle Correctional Facility. You have submitted to this office for review responsive information you contend is excepted from disclosure pursuant to section 552.108. We assume the highlighted portions of the submitted documents contain the only information at issue and that any other responsive documents have already been disclosed to the requestor.

Section 552.108 excepts information from disclosure when its release would unduly interfere with law enforcement. Open Records Decision No. 616 (1993) at 1. This office determines whether the release of particular records will unduly interfere with law enforcement on a case-by-case basis. Open Records Decision No. 408 (1984) at 2. You contend that the information at issue provides specific guidelines and information concerning police procedures on the use of force by officers who are confronted with violent or potentially violent situations. In Open Records Decision No. 531 (1989) at 3, we stated that release of such guidelines "could impair an officer's ability to arrest a suspect or protect the public peace." We agree that release of some of the information at issue would unduly interfere with law enforcement and crime prevention. We have marked the information that may be withheld pursuant to section 552.108. The other information at issue must be released to the requestor.

We are resolving this matter with an informal letter ruling rather than with a published open records decision. This ruling is limited to the particular records at issue under the facts presented to us in this request and should not be relied upon as a previous determination under section 552.301 regarding any other records. If you have questions about this ruling, please contact our office.

Yours very truly,

Ruth H. Soucy

Assistant Attorney General Open Records Division

RHS/rho

Ref.: ID# 32123

Enclosures: Marked documents

cc: Mr. Theodore Thomas

710 Lucas Street

Nacogdoches, Texas 75961

(w/o enclosures)

Mr. Calvin E. Lee Chairman Criminal Justice Committee Austin Branch NAACP 1704 East 12th Street Austin, Texas 78702 (w/o enclosures)